

## PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN

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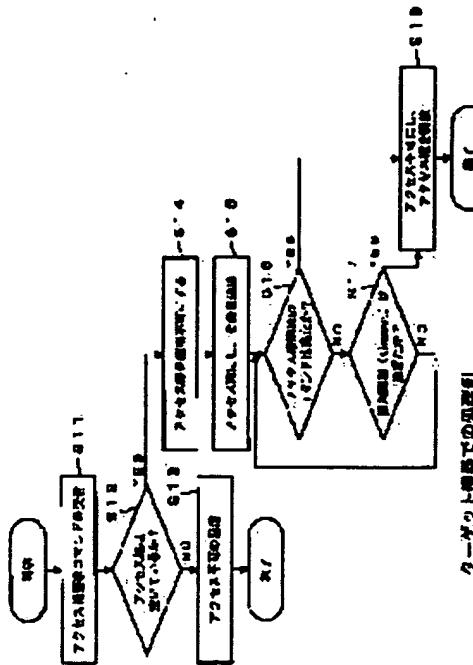
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## (54) CONTROL METHOD AND COMMUNICATION DEVICE

## (57)Abstract:

**PROBLEM TO BE SOLVED:** To enable proper remote control between devices which are connected to a network of IEEE1394, etc., without making the device control complicated.

**SOLUTION:** In this control method, the operation of a controlled device in a specific network to which devices are connected is controlled by another device in the network. Here, the controlled device is given the right to access and only device is given the right to access at a request made by some control device in the network; and only the control device having obtained the right to access outputs a control command to the controlled device, which answers only the control command from the control device given the effective right to access.



## LEGAL STATUS

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**Japanese Publication for Unexamined Patent Application****No. 148705-2001 (Tokukai 2001-148705)****A. Relevance of the above-identified Document**

This document has relevance to all independent claims of the present application.

**B. Translation of the Relevant Passages of the Document****[EMBODIMENTS]****[0014]**

The network system is arranged so that a plurality of devices are connected to each other via an IEEE1394 serial data bus 9. Here, as shown in Fig. 1, the network is connected to four AV devices: a video player 1 provided with an IEEE1394 bus connection terminal; a first image receiver 2; a second image receiver 3; and a personal computer device 4. Here, each of the image receivers 2, 3, and the computer device 4 includes a function as a controller for controlling a communication in the bus 9 and for controlling other device connected by the bus 9.

**[0040]**

The access right request command whose data structure is in compliance with the AV/C command is transmitted to the target device when the control device obtains the access right of the present example.

[0042]

In case where the target device gives the access right with respect to the corresponding request, the target device transmits an [ACCEPTED] response command, and gives a timeout value to the status. The timeout value is information concerning a time in which the given access right is valid (so-called expiration time information). The information is indicated as a counter value which is counted down in accordance with a constant clock, and the access right is invalidated when the counter value is a constant value. Alternatively, it may be so arranged that: absolute time information is used as the foregoing information, and the access right is invalidated when a time indicated by the information comes.

[0046]

The following description will explain an example of a process in which the aforementioned access right is used to control the target device by means of the controller. First, a process carried out in the target device, i.e., a controlled device is described with reference to a flowchart of Fig. 13. When the target device receives the access right request command (step S11), the access right management section provided in the central control unit of the target device determines whether any access right is left or not (i.e., whether there is a device having the access right or not) in accordance with the storage data of the access right setting table that is shown in Fig. 7 (step S12). When it is determined that no access right is left, a response indicating that it is impossible to

access the device is transmitted to the transmitting end of the command (step S13), and the process is ended.

[0047]

When it is determined that an access right is left, “the access right has been given” is stored in the access right column of the corresponding device in the access right setting table, so as to prevent the access right from being given to other device (step S14), and a response indicating that the access right is given to the device having transmitted the request is transmitted by return (step S15).

[0049]

In case where the expiration time of the access right has passed, the device is not allowed to access, and “data having no access right” is indicated in a column of the device corresponding to the access right setting table, and the access right is made to return to the local device (step S18).





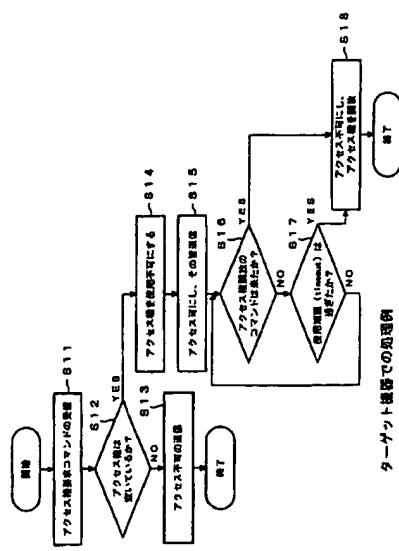




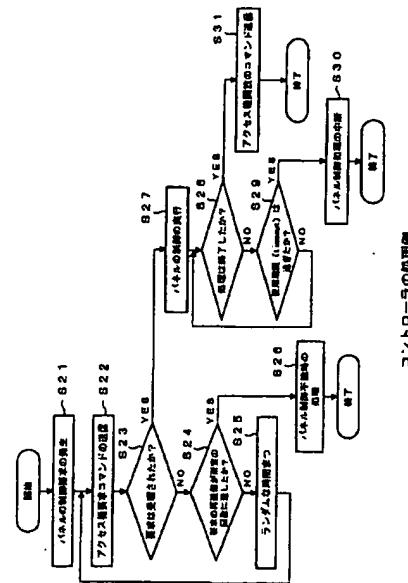




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